

THE CLAYTON NEWS

OFFICIAL PAPER OF UNION COUNTY
OFFICIAL PAPER TOWN OF CLAYTONCHAS. P. SUTHERS (RIGHT)
Editor and Owner

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR

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Saturday, May 6, 1916

T. R. is our idea of a dramatic critic.

Mr. Bryan encountered Armageddon at home in Nebraska.

Our notion of a standup republican is one who has enough honesty in his makeup to stand by the things he said of Roosevelt four years ago.

When President Wilson delivered his famous message to Congress recently stating that he had notified Germany that her illegal and inhuman warfare against merchant vessels must cease or relations be severed, he was overwhelmed with telegrams of approval and endorsement from every state, and every important city in the country. Then the hyphenated ones got busy and sent a half ton of telegrams to Congressmen and Senators protesting against war. But these telegrams were all alike, showing that a society secretary had written the telegrams and passed them along to the hyphenated ones to send to their Congressman.

This "democratic perspiration" stuff has just about gone the wind. The wind is certainly sooty pressed for humor when it is inspiring a gag of that caliber. The "jimmy" and "workscrew" modes operandi is easily observable when such a campaign is started. Still, it has been stirred. The News proposes to review without favor the circumstances, facts and deductions brought out and established in the short-lived issue of the county's semi-monthly paper, the county age, not the county editor, failing with the matter that we think they are well-founded and a reasonable objection can be raised to those answers. Otherwise believe us, business men that happen will be handled in these salubrious fair and impartial manner. Facts vs. Stomped truths and can do nothing more telling. The News will urge the facts.

Facts and Figures

One of our very best housewives recently handed her husband a long list of commodities required in the home with the suggestion that the order be placed where best prices could be had.

Like a good business man, he decided to find out just what prices would cost through various channels.

First of all, he went to the local order catalog and noted the prices according to the quality wanted.

To the total of these he added the money order fee, postage, freight and other expense incident to long distance shipping.

With these figures in his pocket he submitted a duplicate list of the articles to one of his home merchants, asking that his prices be noted for goods of the desired grade.

A comparison of the two series of figures showed that the local merchant's price for the full assortment was materially lower than the same merchandise would cost if the order was sent out of town.

To say nothing of the advantage and convenience of having the goods delivered at his door. Whenever wanted, unpacked and ready for immediate use.

As compared with the trouble and inconvenience of making up the order and sending it away, and the delay in the arrival of the goods, which would necessarily follow.

Ely, Bursum, Romero

Ralph C. Ely, the only man yet announced for the republican nomination for governor, who is in any way fitted for the position, favored us this week with a batch of his literature. Listen to Mr. Ely's opinion of himself, Bursum and Romero:

"The differences between H. O. Bursum or Secundino Romero and myself are fundamental. They go at once to political methods and to public measures.

"These gentlemen believe in the supremacy of the organization—of the machine. I believe in the sup-

macy of the people. They make their appeal to a few political leaders throughout the state. . . . I recognize the value of the services of these men and welcome their support, but believe that the time has come, since our organization as a state, when the public man must go beyond the local leader and make clear to the masses of the voters, the reasons for his candidacy.

"They believe that party success is the supreme good and to this end would even deny to Democrats their rightful seats in the legislature of the state if, in their individual judgment, party success could only be attained by so drastic a measure."

Mr. Ely could have said with truth that they did "deny to democrats their rightful seats in the legislature of the state," through the use of the "jimmy" and by overriding the expressed will of the people. Mr. Ely will not be nominated, he is too sanitary, but through his candidacy he can do a great work for the state.

A Good Candidate for The National Democratic Convention

We are advised that the candidacy of Juan J. Duran, county clerk of Union county, is gaining ground in that county, to assist the National Democratic convention as one of the representatives of the Democratic party of New Mexico. Upon the meritorious services Mr. Duran has given his party in the county and state, and upon his splendid political and official record we are sincerely of the opinion that his name should receive the unanimous support of the next convention.

Mr. Duran belongs to that type of honest and faithful servants of the people who ought to serve and not in such assemblies wherein many questions concerning the life and future of the nation are decided.

The democratic party of New Mexico and with the entire state, will use the right-minded period to count among its representatives by the other lesser editor Ben Juan J. Duran and choose the wisest and most progressive men in this part of the state. A state convention would be his salvation as one of the delegates to the national convention.

In our judgment we are disposed to do whatever possible in favor of his election and hope his friends will do as much and hope the nation will do the same without the slight because nothing can be sought against him of the character of Mr. Duran. Let us do this.

Ja Voz is the leading Spanish paper in the state, and is edited by Ferdinand Governor E. G. de la Rosa. We are especially pleased that Mr. Ely's candidacy has been received so favorably. Unquestionably going to the convention salutary for Juan J. Duran and Union county is a winner.

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LOCAL AND PERSONAL

George Italid, the popular bookkeeper at Bob Isaacs' was ill the first of the week. He was threatened with pneumonia but is back on the job again.

Dan Sherman, of the News force left for Trinidad the fore part of the week where he will visit his parents.

Floyd C. Field, of Chapman, was shaking hands with his many friends in Clayton the first of the week.

J. D. Kiser, of Des Moines, was a county seat visitor Tuesday.

Willard Baker, of Dedman, was in Clayton Wednesday.

H. J. Fair, of Dedman, transacted business in the city the fore part of the week.

J. P. Ozier, of Harrington, was in Clayton on business Tuesday.

John Knox and J. S. Holland, of Holland, attended the Democratic Convention Saturday, last, and spent the fore part of this week in the city.

Serapio Miera was one of the many out-of-town people attending the Democratic Convention Saturday.

Editor Feltner, of the Swastika, was a delegate to the convention and took occasion to call on his many friends in Clayton.

Field and Garden seeds. New seed that germinates quickly and true-to-name and type. H. Herzstein Seed Co. Seed That Succeed.

THE SCHOOL QUESTION

Another week of quibble and protest has passed and the school site question is still undecided.

Judge Lieb, after hearing evidence in the matter in his court at Raton, a week ago Monday, dissolved the injunction restraining the Board of Education, granted by him earlier in the month at Tucumcari.

Immediately upon his opinion being received here Attorney Woodward, acting for the opponents to the Board, filed notice of appeal to the Supreme Court and furnished the \$10,000 appeal bond necessary.

There the matter rests.

A summary of the matter can be given in a few words. The motive dominating either side is whether the west side or the east side of town will be chosen for the site of the new building. Opponents to the action of the Board maintain that the Board can save the school district nearly two thousand dollars by accepting one of the sites and the bonds offered in each instance by residents of the town, and the board maintains that inasmuch as it has already contracted to purchase the site on the east side it must fulfill the contract. This is probably right. The contract is binding.

Still it is true that the Board would save the district twenty-three hundred dollars by taking advantage of the offer of either Dr. Charlton, Mr. Ekholm or Mr. Ervin, who offer free sites and a considerable financial bonus. This is admitted by members of the Board, who regret that these offers were not made before the action of the Board in contracting to buy the Townsite Company site, was taken.

In the meantime Clayton suffers for lack of school accommodations. The summer will pass with the matter still undecided and the opening of school next year will find the town with no better school facilities than are at present available.

The Board of Education, we are informed, is willing to sacrifice, in fact, to abide by the decision of the majority of the residents of the district, and grant members of the Board a benefit of five thousand dollars if the public mind this question.

It would be well to take how much the majority will be in favor of the offer of the Board of Education, who will be finally bound to purchase the Townsite site.

Nothing of course can be gained by opposing the Spanish, which is detrimental to the progress of the city. Even a compromise in this matter is useless. There is nothing to compromise.

But there is such a thing as shooting all over again.

The News has not taken any side in this matter. We have tried to publish both sides of the matter in full reports as possible. The News has been willing to abide by the decision of the voters but it has never lost sight of the fact that this unnecessary quarrel is engendering a bitterness that will be felt for years to come, and that while the question is being dragged thru the courts the town and district are suffering for lack of school accommodations that should have been provided years ago.

The time has come when to return to the starting point is necessary.

The schools are congested. But there is no lack of room for the pupils in the eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades, or the last primary grade and the four grades of high school.

Pupils in the lower primary grades are hampered in their progress by lack of room. In the first and second grades it is necessary to have a part of the pupils attend in the morning and the remainder in the afternoon.

Such a situation is preposterous.

It is hard for a small child to assimilate the learning required to make proficient grades in these lower divisions of the schools in a full day's session, where ample time is

devoted to each subject. When it is attempted to instill into growing and inattentive minds the knowledge necessary for progress in the lower grades in one-half day sessions the attempt fails, utterly. The education of small children becomes a farce and an absolute waste of time.

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The school board maintains that it will relieve this congestion of the lower grades by having rooms fitted for the lower grades in the new building.

This, undoubtedly, would relieve the congestion.

BUT IT IS UNFAIR TO THE CHILDREN LIVING ON THE WEST SIDE.

It is impossible for many of the little folks to attend their half day session in the present building when the weather is severe.

The present building is sufficient for high school purposes were it devoted to higher grades only. In fact it is stated by those in a position to know that the installation of a new heating and ventilating system and the possible reconstruction of the older portion of the building would entail an expenditure of less than five thousand dollars. It is the most central location that can be found at this time, and even were it not central, high school pupils are of an age that a walk of several miles to school is of more benefit than harm.

Taking advantage of the offers of two free sites and the bonus extended there would be ample funds for the construction of two ward schools for the primary grades, one on the east and one on the west side of the town. Fifteen thousand dollars will be used to outfit a grade school that will be a credit to its immediate neighborhood. This has been determined by boards of education in large cities everywhere.

Should the time come when Clayton will be the home of a normal school the site will be available for that institution. And when that becomes the town or the county, will be in shape to take one hundred thousand dollars, if necessary, for the construction of the building. If the site proves an expense to the Board that will baffle the funds necessary to construct the two ward schools, the Board can readily sell the site for the money paid for it. There is no argument there.

IF THE TWO BLOCKS ARE WORTH EIGHTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR A SCHOOL SITE THEY ARE WORTH THAT MUCH FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

In all school systems where towns and cities are noted for their excellent school facilities, it is customary to provide for the little children in the grades, first.

This is a fundamental educational and economic fact. If there are no high school pupils there is no need for a high school building and high school pupils do not originate in congested grade schools. Rather than continue their school they become dissatisfied and drop out during their sixth, seventh and eighth years.

Given opportunity and ample time and room to pursue their studies their school work becomes a pleasure, rather than a torture, and they continue on thru the higher grades.

THE MOST ELABORATE AND BEST EQUIPPED HIGH SCHOOL IN THE WORLD WOULD PROVE A DISMAL FAILURE WERE THERE NO HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS TO USE IT.

Let Attorney Woodward withdraw his notice of appeal and his appeal bond. Sell the bonds as advertised. Purchase the Townsite Company site.

AND THEN LET THE CITIZENS OF THE DISTRICT AND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION GET TOGETHER ON A COMMON SENSE BASIS AND LOOK THE EDUCATIONAL QUESTION SQUARE IN THE FACE, CUTTING OUT PERSONAL PREJUDICE AND PROFIT, AND DEALING WITH THE SCHOOL SITUATION AS IT SHOULD BE DEALT WITH, AS AN INVESTMENT IN GOOD CITIZENSHIP FOR THE COMING GENERATIONS.

CLAYTONETTS

NEWSMAN TALKS ON NATURE

In Moment of Inspiration Sees Things Mack Hadn't Seen Since He Swore Off

The Newsman was talking to Speed as they lined up at Walter's thirst emporium for their usual draught of beer on their way to lunch. In some ways the Newsman is perfectly rational but he is decidedly "loco" when it comes to nature. In fact birds and bees and buds and trees and brooks and lees and ships on seas—and schooners on the bar—frequently inspire him to superlative expression. He was so inspired as he stood there talking to Speed.

"Nature is the only real artist," he said as he crooked his right elbow with the ease that only comes with long and assiduous practice. "Have you ever gazed at her wonders? Have you ever watched the lambent flame of dawn leaping across the dome of the world? Have you never, at sunset, watched the red stained clouds that appear as islets floating in a lake of molten gold as the sun sinks to rest beyond the purple mountains that keep us from seeing Raton—and at night, when Aurora is putting her black coverlet over the scenes of her earlier triumphs—at night have you never been inspired by the ragged raven winged phantoms that blot out the pale moon—have you never felt the amazement of these things, Mack?" he concluded, turning from Speed to the general Mack O'Donald, who was much more interested in endeavoring to quiet the foam on a glass of Lemp's drawn from a wild keg.

"Why, no," replied Mac, with a grim grin. "Not recently. Not since I climbed onto the waterwagon last June."

VILLAGE NOTES

A Springer, life-long friend of the Newsman, inflicted himself upon Clayton two days the fore part of the week. As a capitalist by vocation and a newspaper dilettante by avocation.

Some of the tunes are those of Bob Isaacs and the Clayton Milling Company, the artistic巧work of transient sign painters who made Clayton their headquarters for a few days.

Herbert Herzstein almost BOUGHT an automobile Tuesday. His nerve failed him at the last moment, however, and Hot Ford is out the price of another car.

The advent of a new fashion has given new occupation to some of the tellers. They have stopped watching the clock and now spend most of their time watching for ankle watches.

Weather is finer but its the sort of weather when you don't know whether to get up and weed the garden or sweep the snow off the walk.

Owing to lack of space several births and deaths were unavoidably delayed.

The Civic League died a natural death right after election and Lizzie, the pet hen of the assistant postmaster hatched out eight chicks about the same time. Mother and brood are doing nicely.

Horrors of War

The new issue of two-cent stamps will be a lighter shade of pink, the Newsman is informed, on account of the shortage of dye due to the war.

A WANDER SONG

The sun is warm and the wind is sweet,
And the road is laying before my feet,
And just where the sky and the mountains blend
There's a pot of gold at the rainbow's end—
A Pot o' Gold for the men who dare
To take the trail to the rainbow there.

My spirit thrills with the rover's code,
My heart is faint for the open road,
The smiling meadows, the arching sky,
The color of life that flashes by.
Love and laughter and hardship grim—
And fortune—just at the distant rim!
—"30"